

Mexican War 4

To Wabe

Those of the Mormon Battalion, Who Settled in Timpanogos Valley, Utah:

Elisha Averett was born on 12 Dec 1810 in Maury Co., Tennessee to John & Jenet Gill Averett. He joined the Mormon Battalion as a musician in Company A and had learned the trade of Master Stone Masonry. After his tour of duty in the Battalion he came to Heber City for a time, in 1861 & 1875. He married three times during his life: (1) Dorcus Willis, (2) Sarah Jane Witt, (3) Cherizade Grimes. They lived in various places in Washington Co., Heber, Wasatch Co., Utah, Idaho, and Nevada. Elisha's Son --named Elisha who md Annie Catherine Sedarville, dau of Grandma Skogg, lived in Heber, and was a Master Stone Mason, having learned the trade well, from his father. He contributed much to the building up of this community. His handiwork is indelibly marked on such sandstone buildings as the Joseph Royal Murdock home at 315 West 100 So in Heber, Abram Hatch's second home (Zion's First National Bank), Wasatch Stake Tabernacle (present Heber City Offices), Abram C Hatch's home at 105 E Center St in Heber, and many others.

James Camp Greer of the Battalion, was related to the Greers of Wallsburg, but did not settle in this vicinity. He was born 12 Jan 1828, in Alabama and served as pvt in Co B of the Battalion. After his duty was completed, he returned to Tennessee to sell family property, became serious ill and died there.

William Wallace Casper was born 12 Mar 1821 in Belleville, Richland Co., Ohio to William & Arvilla Durbin Casper. This family, after having joined the LDS faith, were driven from Missouri to Illinois. In 1841, William Wallace Casper joined the Nauvoo Legion, in the Francis Higby Co. He married Sarah Ann Bean on 29th Aug 1844. and they removed to Council Bluffs to begin the western trek. Here William was mustered into the Battalion as a pvt in Co A. He left his young wife and baby in Council Bluffs in care of her 16 yr old brother, George Washington Bean, (an early settler here) who would drive their wagon and oxen, and wife and baby on to the Rocky Mountains. William was discharged from the Battalion 16 July of 1847, returning to Utah by 16 Occt 1847, and found his wife and daughter safe in SLCU. Although, they finally settled in Millcreek in SL Co., Utah, his son, William Nephi Casper did settle in this area, near Charleston.

James Barnett Cole, was born 22 Aug 1828, in Concord, Ohio to Barnett and Phoebe Van Alstyne Cole, and served as pvt in Co D of the Mormon Battalion. He married Lucy Ward and after his tour of duty, they lived in various towns around Utah, including: Willard, Provo, Heber in Wasatch Co. between Mar 1862 and April 1867, Payson, Sandy, Richmond, Ogden, and later to Plymouth where he was killed on 7 June 1876.

Ephriam Knowlton Hanks, was born 21 Mar 1826 in Madison, Lake, Ohio to Benjamin and Martha Knowlton Hanks. Ephriam served well in the Battalion as pvt in Co B learning very much and going on to become one of the valued western scouts--particularly for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. He married: (1) Harriet Amelia

Decker, (2) Jane Maria Capener, who also served, but, in Company E of the Battalion. (3) Hannah Hardy, and (4) Thisbe Quilley Read. Ephriam and his Jane Maria Capner Family

lived in the Charleston area for some time. As a Mormon Scout he had many and diverse responsibilities which demanded his attention in many areas. He finally died in Pleasant Creek, Wayne Co., Utah. Some of his progeny still remain in the Timpanogos Valley region.

Phoebe Draper Palmer Brown was the new 2nd wife of Ebenezer Brown. Phoebe volunteered as a laundress in the Battalion to be with her new 2nd husband. They, both had suffered similar ill-fortune: She had been widowed with seven children by the death of her 1st husband, George Palmer, in 1835. Near this time, Phoebe was given a blessing by Prophet Joseph Smith that she would be blessed with a good companion, who would be a man of God, and that she would be able to bring up her family properly. Ebenezer was born in New York on 6 Dec 1802 and raised in Crawford Co., Pennsylvania, clearing land for farming. On 20th of July 1823 he had married Ann Weaver with whom he had had five children. They joined the LDS Church and moved west to Ohio, and later to Missouri and on to Quincy, Illinois. It was here that he lost Ann Weaver on 20 July 1842, leaving him with five children. Both Phoebe and Ebenezer finally arrived in Nauvoo where they met and married. Ebenezer was mustered into the Battalion as 2nd Sergeant in Company A and Phoebe did not want to be left behind, again. They both made the long 2000 mile trek to San Diego California and were mustered out 14 Mar 1848. The Browns terried in the Sacramento Area for a time panning for gold, but finally ended up in SLCU in 1849. They moved to the South Willow Creek (Draper) in 1850, and are credited with being the first family to build a home in the Draper, Utah area. Ebenezer died there 26 Jan 1878.

There is another part of this story which involves the early settlement of Timpanogos Valley.....Zemira Palmer was the son of George and Phoebe Draper Palmer, born 9 Aug 1831, born in the Upper Province of Canada. After Zemira's mother, Phoebe married Ebenezer Brown, he also did not want to be left behind, and urged his mother to take him with them into the Battalion. He was not old enough to be a soldier, but could be a servant to the officers. He had to be able to carry a rifle, however. Zemira was only 14 yrs. of age. It was so arranged. Rations were sparse, but Phoebe managed well. Eventually, Zemira married (1) Sally Knight, dau of Newell Knight and Lydia Goldthwaite, on 1st Dec 1851, and later (2) he married Caroline Jacques in 1856. They moved to the Heber Fort in Timpanogos Valley in 1860, and lived in the north west corner of that Fort. Zemira served in the Echo Canyon War, and later was called to Orderville, Utah to live the United Order there with his family. He died there at age 49, on 22 Oct 1880.

John Sessions was born 22 Aug 1820, in White County, Illinois, to Richard & Lucretia Haws Sessions. In early July 1846, John married Caroline Emeline Sessions. John volunteered to join the Mormon Battalion in 1846, and served as a pvt in Co A during the Mexican War campaign. His young bride volunteered as a laundress in the same

the American War campaign. His young child volunteered as a landowner in the same
connected to join the American Battalion in 1840, and served as a private during
Harris' absence. In early July 1840 John married Caroline Louisa Sessions, sister
John Sessions was born 22 April 1820, in White County, Illinois to Richard & 1 daughter

1880)
train to join the United Order there with his family. He died there at age 49, on 22 Oct
1869. James served in the 10th Ohio Cavalry and was called to Order 1865.
moved to the Hopedale Township, settled in 1860, and lived in the north west corner
of the lot. He married Caroline Louisa Sessions in 1850. They
17 children. James married (1) Sally Knight, dau of Dr. John Knight and Lydia
14 years of age. It was so arranged. James was a good man, but his wife managed well
sentiment to the office. He had to be able to carry a full horse. James was only
himself into the Battalion. He was not old enough to be a soldier, but could be a
trooper. James had to be left behind, and he had his mother to take
1851, born in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. After James' mother, Phoebe married
Phoebe, James' father was the son of George and Phoebe Palmer, born 1 Aug
There is another part of this story which it covers the early settlement of Thompsons.

area. James died there 30 Jan 1878
and succeeded with being the first family to build a house in the Upper, then
ended up in 1840. They moved to the South Willow Creek. (Died in 1840
The James family in the settlement area for a time passing for good, but in 1840
the long 1000 mile trip to San Diego, California and were married on 14 Nov 1848.
settled in Germany. James did not want to be left behind, again. They both made
James when they got married. James was married into the Battalion as 2nd
1840, having him and a wife. Both Phoebe and James finally arrived in
Adams and on 10 August 1848. It was here that he lost again 17 Aug on 10 July
had his children. They found the LDS Church and married, was to Ohio, and later to
land for farming. On 10 July 1848 he had married Ann Weaver, with whom he had
was born in New York on 6 Dec 1802 and raised in the town of Pennsylvania, coming
be a man of God, and that she would be able to bring up her family properly. However
to Prophet Joseph said that she would be blessed with a good companion who would
of her first husband, George Palmer. In 1834, when the time Phoebe was given a blessing
had suffered similar to her husband. She had been a widow 17 years and a child by the death
volunteered as a landowner in the Battalion to be with her new husband. Both both
Phoebe Palmer Palmer. James was the new 2nd wife of the new George Palmer. Phoebe

region
Greek, Wayne Co. The sons of the program still remain in the Thompsons' area
responsibilities which demanded his attention in many ways. He finally died in 1840
lived in the Cleveland area for some time. As a Mormon he had many and diverse
family
Died 13 Jan 1840. James was a young man who married, but in 1840, he of the Battalion
(1) Hannah (Hannah) and (2) Joseph (Joseph) and his wife Anna (Anna)

company. His father, Richard, and younger brother, William Bradford Sessions served as privates also in that same Co. A. Richard's family remained behind at Mt Pisgah (wife Lucretia, and 6 children). William Bradford was not yet married. As the Battalion advanced, and at a point, a number of men and women had become disabled, sick, or worn. It was decided to send this sick detachment to Pueblo Colorado under command of Capt. John (Polly) Brown on 16 Sep 1846. In this group were 16 families. They spent the winter of 1846 and 1847 in Pueblo. In the Spring of 1847 this group were dispatched to SL Valley and arrived there 29 July 1847, five days after the first band of Pioneers under the leadership of Brigham Young, had arrived. Mrs John Sessions, (Caroline Emeline Sessions Sessions) was detached from the Battalion on 17 Oct 1846.

Richard Sessions was born 28 Apr 1799 in Logan Co. Kentucky, to Solomon & Mary Hargraves or Hargreaves. Richard married Lucretia Haws, dau of Jacob & Hannah Neil or Neal Haws, on 14 April 1821, in White Co Illinois. Richard was made a Seventy in the LDS Church and then made a counsellor to Bishop Terry in Mosquito Creek, Iowa. Richard also distinguished himself in the 13th Regiment and 1st Brigade of the Illinois Mounted Volunteers, in the Illinois Blackhawk Indian War. He later joined the Mormon Battalion in 1846 with 2 sons: John and William Bradford Sessions and John's wife, Caroline Emeline Sessions Sessions, who joined as a laundress in Co A. This seems to be a record: One Mormon Family furnishing 4 adult members to join with the Battalion. He and son William Bradford made the entire 2000 mile march with that Battalion to San Diego, California. They were discharged there, and came on to SLCU, arriving here, 16 Oct 1847.

In SLCU Richard took up ground in the Fort Douglas Area and in the spring of 1848, planted grain there. The Crickets devoured it. Then in the fall of the 1848 Richard and William Bradford Sessions traveled back to Winter Quarters to rejoin their family. Then in 1850, the remaining family of Richard Sessions returned to Utah in the James Pace Co., arriving in SL in mid Oct. They remained in their first home in Cottonwood for a few years then moved to Provo. After arriving in Provo Utah, he was called as 2nd Counsellor to the first bishop of the 4th Ward: Bishop William Madison Wall and later to Bishop William Fawcett of the same Ward. He was a very early settler in Heber, Wasatch, Utah and became a prominent farmer and stock raiser. He died in Heber on 23 Mar 1879.

William Bradford Sessions was born 23 Jan 1827 in Wayne, DuPage Co., Illinois to Richard and Lucretia Haws Sessions. He joined the Battalion with his father and older brother John, when Wm was only 19. He married Catherine Yager, on 9th of Aug 1852 in Wayne Co., Illinois. Catherine was born 21 Jan 1834. William B. was mustered out in San Diego California. They searched for gold in Calif before returning to Utah. He died in Sweetwater, Wyoming, according to one account. This couple had one son: Richard Yager Sessions, born in Heber, Wasatch, Utah, on 7 Apr 1872.

These bits of factual information are offered to add to the saga of the settlement of Timpanogos Valley, in this, the Sesquicentennial Year of the arrival of the Utah Pioneers into Salt Lake Valley in 1847.

References:

1. Elmer J Carr, "Honorable Remembrance, The San Diego Master List of the Mormon Battalion," 1972-1978 Published by the U. S. Mormon Battalion, Inc.
2. Kate B. Carter, "The Mormon Battalion, 1846-1847," published by the DUP in 1956.
3. William James Mortimer, "How Beautiful Upon the Mountains," published by The Wasatch County Chapter of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, by the Deseret Book Co., of Salt Lake City, Utah, 1963
4. Andrew Jenson, "Latter-Day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia," published by the Andrew Jenson Publishing Co., and printed by the Deseret Book Co in 1901, in 4 volumes.
5. Madoline Cloward Dixon, "Peteetneet Town," printed by The Press Publishing Co., of Provo, Utah in 1974.
6. Andrew Jenson, "Church Chronology," printed by the Deseret News Press in 1899.
7. Information from Family Group Sheets and Pedigrees, from the Family History Library, in Salt Lake City, Utah.
8. Several Personal Interviews with Melva L Thomas Graham (Vern) of Francis Utah, during Feb. 1997, on the Sessions Family Histories.
RRG 2-24-97

[illegible]

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

— **THEY CAN'T STOP IT** — **THEY CAN'T STOP IT** — **THEY CAN'T STOP IT** —

[illegible]

STANDARD

To do additional work on your business record based schedule, click
Additional Work on Your Business Record Based Schedule

[illegible][illegible]

These bits of factual information are offered to add to the saga of the settlement of Timpanogos Valley, in this, the Sesquicentennial Year of the arrival of the Utah Pioneers into Salt Lake Valley in 1847.

References:

1. Elmer J Carr, "Honorable Remembrance, The San Diego Master List of the Mormon Battalion," 1972-1978 Published by the U. S. Mormon Battalion, Inc.
 2. Kate B. Carter, "The Mormon Battalion, 1846-1847," published by the DUP in 1956.
 3. William James Mortimer, "How Beautiful Upon the Mountains," published by The Wasatch County Chapter of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, by the Deseret Book Co., of Salt Lake City, Utah, 1963
 4. Andrew Jenson, "Latter-Day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia," published by the Andrew Jenson Publishing Co., and printed by the Deseret Book Co in 1901, in 4 volumes.
 5. Madoline Cloward Dixon, "Peteetneet Town," printed by The Press Publishing Co., of Provo, Utah in 1974.
 6. Andrew Jenson, "Church Chronology," printed by the Deseret News Press in 1899.
 7. Information from Family Group Sheets and Pedigrees, from the Family History Library, in Salt Lake City, Utah.
 8. Several Personal Interviews with Melva L Thomas Graham (Vern) of Francis Utah, during Feb. 1997, on the Sessions Family Histories.
- RRG 2-24-97